

Home Education Advisory Council

Minutes--September 11, 2012

Abbey Lawrence called the meeting to order at 3:40.

Members Present: Abbey Lawrence, Michael Compitello, Marc Boyd, Neil Nevins, Roberta Tenney, and Amy Gall.

The need for a Secretary or other person to take regular meeting minutes was discussed. Amy agreed to take notes today. Marc Boyd stated that he could bring a tape recorder to the next meeting.

Election of Officers:

Michael Compitello moved to nominate Abbey Lawrence for the position of Chairman. The motion was seconded and approved.

Marc Boyd moved to nominate Michael Compitello for the position of Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded and approved.

Chairman's Report:

Abbey discussed the current membership of the council. Amy Gall and Marc Boyd were recently appointed, Keith Pfeifer has resigned, and George D'Orazio needs to be re-nominated. Abbey reported that she has left messages for Mark Joyce regarding a nominee from the New Hampshire School Administrators Association, and asked Roberta to contact him.

Abbey informed Roberta that two changes were needed on the Department of Education website:

- 1) The Council roster needs to be updated.
- 2) The contact person for the New Hampshire Homeschooling Coalition needs to be updated.

Abbey reported that she has tried to contact Sarah Fox, a liaison between the N.H. judicial system and school districts, to invite her to attend a council meeting. Abbey, in an email, asked Barrett Christina to contact Ms. Fox.

It was noted that the November meeting is scheduled for Election Day. Marc suggested that the question of moving the November meeting date be added to the October agenda.

Minutes: The Council approved the June minutes by general consent.

Department Report:

Roberta reported that she has had a lot of calls from both home educators and school districts regarding implementation of the new law. School districts want to know how they will be held accountable; she stated that superintendents believe that they are responsible for all of the school-age children within their districts. Michael pointed out that even if superintendents perceive it that way, the law does not support that belief.

Abbey reported that she has heard some school districts have sent mailings to home educators requesting one last letter of notification. Roberta stated that technical advisories go directly to each school district superintendent at the same time they are posted to the website. Abbey suggested that one of the superintendents' meetings with the Commissioner would be a good opportunity to explain the changes in the law and hear their concerns.

There was some discussion about the distinction between home-education overseen by a parent versus VLACS public school students who are being educated at home. One-third of VLACS students are home educated

New Laws and Rules:

Abbey initiated a discussion about the need to rewrite the administrative rules to reflect changes to the law. She appointed Michael Compitello as chairman of a rules revision subcommittee, and herself and Amy as members. Meetings will not begin until after the October Council meeting; members of the public are invited.

There was discussion about probation and notification.

Roberta Tenney left the meeting at 4:24 p.m., at which time there was no longer a quorum and the regular meeting was concluded.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business: There was no new business.